

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A process for producing a soybean protein comprising treating a soybean protein solution or soybean protein slurry with transglutaminase, wherein a heat treatment is performed by direct steam blowing heating at 100 to 160°C for 1 second to 60 ~~minutes~~seconds before the treatment with transglutaminase.

2-8. (Cancelled)

9. (New) A process for producing a processed meat food, which comprises:
producing a soybean protein by treating a soybean protein solution or soybean protein slurry with transglutaminase, wherein a heat treatment is performed by direct steam blowing heating at 100 to 160°C for 1 second to 60 seconds before the treatment with transglutaminase; and
mixing and molding said soybean protein and a meat raw material, and then heating the mixture.

10. (New) The process for producing a processed meat food according to claim 9, wherein the soybean protein, meat and water are blended and chopped, stuffed into a casing, and then heated.